

## District roundup

### KHULNA

#### Drives against dishonest traders, 154 cases filed

Nov 8: Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution (BST), Khulna conducted nineteen drives against dishonest traders in Khulna and Barisal divisions last month to ensure weights and measurements according to rules, says BSS.

Mobile courts during the drives instituted 154 cases against offenders who were using old weighs and measurement in their transactions. One hundred and seven such cases were dispersed off on the spot. The court realised Taka forty-one thousand one hundred and fine. A huge number of underweight stones were forfeited.

### MAGURA

#### Three meet unnatural death

Nov 8: Three people, including two minor boys, met unnatural death in different parts of the district during the last 15 days, family sources said, reports UNB.

Of the victims, Zobeid Ali (32), a farmer of Pachkaunia village in Saitkha thana was killed by lightning on October 21. Ali was working in a crop field when he was struck by a streak of light.

In another incident, Sagor (4), son of Harunur Rashid of Nizanduali village in Sadar thana, was drowned in a pond on October 23.

Nayan (5), son of Niranjan Kumar Biswas of village Saranogdia in Sreepur thana, also met the same fate on October 19.

Local people recovered the bodies from the nearby ponds.

### NETRAKONA

#### Adulterated foodstuffs sold

Nov 8: Adulterated and sub-standard foodstuffs are being sold in the district headquarters and other areas for a long time creating health hazards, says UNB.

According to local people, adulterated edible oil, milk, sweetmeat, flour, ghee, rice are available in huge quantity in different huts and bazars.

Rotten fish and meat of old and diseased animals are also being sold with impunity.

A section of hotel and restaurant owners are selling sub-standard foodstuffs. They prepare and store foodstuffs in most unhygienic way which have been proved injurious to health.

It is alleged that most of the owners of the hotels keep good relations with the health officials by paying bribe on monthly basis to avoid legal step. As a result purity of the prepared foodstuffs is not checked at all.

It is learnt that by taking the uncovered and sub-standard foodstuffs many people have been suffering from gastro-intestinal diseases in the district.

### MANIKGANJ

#### Ferry services threatened at Aricha, Daulatdia

Nov 8: Ferry services between Aricha-Daulatdia and Mowa-Charizian are threatened due to sharp fall in the water levels of the Padma and Jamuna, officials said, reports UNB.

BIWTC sources said that playing of big vessels have been suspended in the routes due to navigational problems as about 200 shoals have surfaced at different points.

WDB sources said the water level of the Jamuna now stands at 36 metres at five points at Aricha ghat while that of the Padma 5.76 metres at Daulatdia on Thursday. As a result, the ferry ghats might have to be closed down at any time, they feared.

Besides, river vessels frequently run aground in the routes. The water level of the rivers had sharply fallen due to withdrawal of waters at Farraka, the sources added.

Meanwhile, ferry services between Sirajganj-Bhuyapur and Aricha-Palash have remained suspended for the last one and a half months due to severe fall in the water level of the rivers.

Ferry services of Aricha-Nagarbari, Nagarbari-Bagabari, Mowa-Aricha, Paksey-Aricha and C and B ghats were also threatened, officials pointed out.

Communication between the capital and 36 northern and southern districts are being hampered due to delay in ferry crossings at Aricha ghat.

### COMILLA

#### One awarded life-term for murder

Nov 8: Additional Sessions Judge of the district awarded life term imprisonment Sunday to a man for murdering a woman, reports UNB.

The court also fined the convict, Faruk Ahmed Taka 1000, in default, to suffer two years rigorous imprisonment more.

The case, in brief, was that Faruk Ahmed alias Dulal called out Froza wife of Abdul Matin of village Batisha and stabbed her to death on August 7, 1992.

When her children raised hue and cry the villagers rushed to the spot and caught Faruk red-handed. A case was filed and police submitted charge-sheet against him.

Mentionable that during the incident Froza's husband Abdul Matin was out of the country. He has been working in the Middle East for the last five years.

After examining the witnesses and records Judge Murul Wadud awarded the punishment amid the crowded court.

### THAKURGAON

#### 794 eye patients treated upon

Nov 8: An eight-day eye camp was concluded Saturday at Jagorani Club Primary School premises in the town, says UNB.

Humanitarian Agency for Development Services (HADS) a non-government voluntary organisation, organised the eye-camp as part of its "Blindness Cure Programme".

The camp was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner of Thakurgaon Mohammad Shaiful Karim on Oct 30.

At least 99 cataract patients were operated upon and 695 patients with eye complications given treatment free of cost. They were provided with food, medicine and spectacles.

Dr Shaidul Islam Khan and Dr T Zaman of Gousul Azam BNSR Eye Hospital in Dinazpur jointly conducted the operation.

HADS also organised a number of eye-camps in different parts of the district, including Moslemuddin College premises in Haripur thana, Balidangi College and Jagorani Club premises where hundreds of patients were provided with free treatment.

### MAGURA

#### PHED gives Tk 41.2 lakh for 3 projects

Nov 8: Public Health and Engineering Department (PHED) has sanctioned Taka 41.27 lakh for completion of three projects in the district during the current fiscal year, reports UNB.

Official sources said, of the total amount Taka 18.27 lakh has been allocated for 5 km pipe line extension work, Taka 16 lakh for 4 km drain construction and Taka seven lakh for sinking of 100 hand tubewells in the district.

Works of the projects are going on in full swing and expected to be completed by June next, officials said.

On completion of the projects, pure water supply and the sanitation facilities in the district would improve to a great extent, officials added.

### KUSHTIA

#### Course on distribution of loan

Nov 8: A three-day training programme on "Self-reliance Loan Disbursement" concluded at the gallery of Medical Assistant Training School in the town on Wednesday, reports UNB.

The programme aimed at making the country self-sufficient, eradication of illiteracy and implementing family planning programmes in the rural areas.

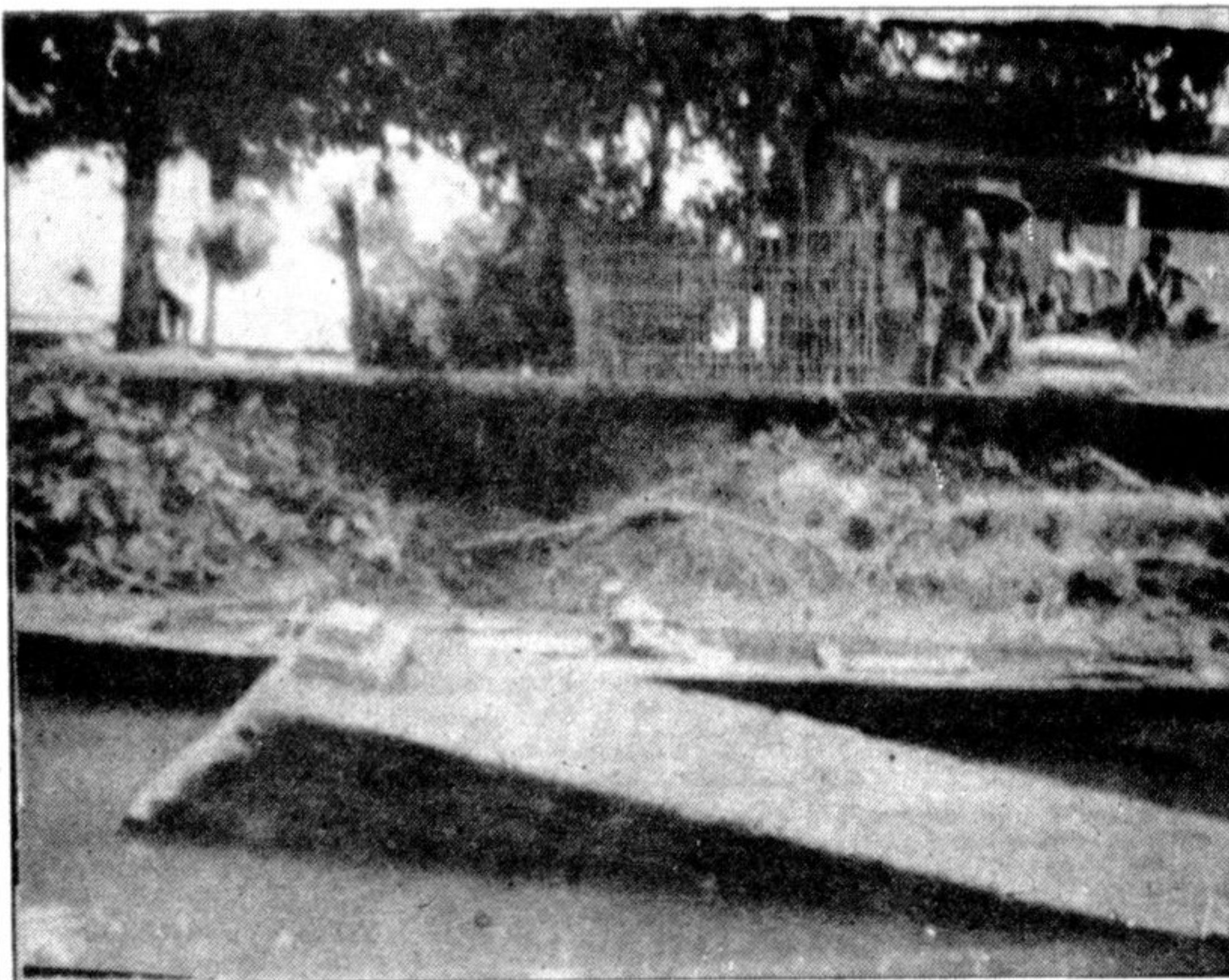
A total of 307 bank managers of Sonali, Agrani, Janata Rupali and Krishi of Khulna and Barisal divisions participated in it.

Former Ambassador and Adviser of "Swanirvar Bangladesh" — a voluntary organisation, Mir Md Rezaul Karim inaugurated the programme.

The speakers said training would equip the participants with more knowledge to implement various development programmes for upliftment of the rural poor.

High officials of different banks and the Deputy General Manager of BSCIS were present as special guests.

The opening session was presided over by Deputy General Manager of Agrani Bank TA Razzak.



SYLHET: The protection wall of Shahid Shabaj Ali Road of Nabiganj thana has already been eroded by the river due to negligence of the authority concern. — Star photo

### Dhaka-Khulna via Gopalganj route

## Launch services stopped for siltation of rivers

From Our Correspondent

GOPALGONJ, Nov 8: The Dhaka-Khulna launch service via Gopalganj and Takerhat has stopped for emergence of shoals in the rivers Madhumati and Artaikha.

The launches used to take 18 hours to reach Dhaka from Khulna via Gopalganj and Takerhat earlier.

The people and traders of Kalia, Bordia, Mohjan, Jaynagar, Jugaria, Chapail and Bagudanga in Narail district, Barfa, Suktail, Tala, Sultanshahi, Manikdha, Gobra, Gahardanga, Bashauboria, Harijaspur, Uapur, Baltail, Satpar and Jalipur under Gopalganj used to journey and carry goods by the launches on this route.

The passengers of Takerhat, Sreemodi, Kabirajpur, Utrail, Janjira and Lowkhola under Madaripur also used to move on through this route and carry mercantile goods.

The services on this route have stopped due to siltation on 20-kilometer long route from

river Madhumati to Manikdha and 15-kilometer long route in Artaikha from Sreemodi to Lowkhola.

The dredging of the two points can help continue the services round the year, experts suggested.

The people of the vast area have urged the authority concerned to look into the matter and take immediate steps to mitigate the sufferings of the people.

The world thrift day was observed here with a befitting manner.

The programme of the day included discussion meeting, rally and savings drive in educational institutions and commercial organisations.

A rally was held at the local Nazrul public library auditorium. The Regional Manager, BKB, the ADC (general) were present on the occasion.

The rally was addressed by Abdur Rob Howlader, Assistant Director, National Savings Bureau, Manjur Ahmed,

District Publicity Officer, Kazi Abdul Hossain and Arubindu Biswas.

The 15th founding day of the Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal was observed here recently.

The programme on the occasion included discussion meeting, mela and cultural function.

A discussion meeting was held at the district BNP office. It was presided over by Kamrul Huda Milan convenor district committee.

Moniruzzaman Pina, general secretary, district BNP was present on the occasion as chief guest.

The discussion meeting was addressed among others by Zahidur Rahman Harop, Murad Ali Khan, S M Humayun Kabir, Badrul Alam Nasim, Syed Kamrul Hasan Tutul, Kazi Niamul Huq, Maruf Hossain and Mijanur Rahman of BNP and Jubadal.

A cultural function was also held on the occasion which was participated by local artistes.

## Bank manager, 33 others face misappropriation charge

BRAHMANBARIA, Nov 8: District Anti-Corruption Bureau submitted charge-sheets against 34 people including the Manager of Krishi Bank, Pakshimul branch of Sarail thana for misappropriating bank money, reports UNB.

Official sources said, a section of officials of Krishi Bank allegedly embezzled Taka 5.99 lakh in the name of agricultural loan at Pakshimul area.

Later district Anti-Corruption Bureau filed a case on September 29, 1985.

After investigation, the bureau detected that 169 people were given loan in fictitious names during fiscal 1984-85.

The incident has created sensation in the area.

### Indian yarn, motor parts seized

Bangladesh Rifles seized Indian yarn and motor parts worth about Taka 3 lakh in two raids in the district during last one week, officials sources said.

Acting on a secret information, BDR jawans raided Badatur village of Kasba thana and recovered 152 bundles of yarn worth Taka 1.52 lakh from a nearby bush.

In another raid BDR raided a village of Sadar thana and re-

covered Indian motor parts worth Taka 1.50 lakh.

They also arrested an alleged smuggler in this connection and sent him to police custody.

The contraband goods were handed over to the customs officials and two cases were filed with the police.

### Reception to poet Al-Mahmud

Brahmanbaria Shishu Natyam accorded a warm reception to poet and writer Al-Mahmud for his great contribution in the field of Bangla literature.

### Diarrhoea claims nine more

SIRAJGANJ, Nov 8: The diarrhoea has claimed nine more lives in two thanas of the district during the last 24 hours ending this evening, raising the death toll to 99, unofficial sources here said. However, official sources said that one died during the last 24 hours and 55 patients had died since its outbreak. Some 7,800 people were being attacked since the outbreak of the disease early this month. On the other hand, official figure stands at 3,880, reports UNB.

The reception ceremony was held at the local Town Hall auditorium with Advocate Shaiful Islam in the chair on Sunday.

The function was also addressed by Advocate Abdus Sattar MP, Md Musa, Prof A K M Harun-un-Rashid, Dilara Harun and Hamdul Haque.

Meanwhile, students of Neaz Mohammad High School also accorded a warm reception to the poet on the same day at the school premises. Al Mahmud was the student of the school.

The function was presided over by the Headmaster Abu Syyed Miah which was also addressed by senior teachers and student leaders.

### Science week concludes

The 17th National Science and Technology Week '93 was concluded at the Brahmanbaria Degree Government College premises.

A total of 18 institutions and science clubs from different thanas of the district took part in the science week held last week.

The week was inaugurated by Mohammed Abdul Matin, Deputy Commissioner of the district in presence of a large number of teachers, students.

## 22 seed selling centres closed

From Our Correspondent

BARISAL, Nov 8: About 22 government seed selling centres at thana level in six southern districts of Barisal, Patuakhali, Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, Bhola and Borguna under Barisal division have already been closed down.

The employees of these centres are their salaries, bonuses and other benefits regularly.

On the other hand, farmers of remote areas of these districts are now deprived of purchasing necessary seeds at fair prices.

At present they are to purchase seeds from some district level seed selling centres.

Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation (BADC) are now reducing its activities from different sectors, particularly in thana level for unknown reasons.

These thana level seed selling centres closed are Bakerganj, Banaripara, Hizla, and Muladi in Barisal district, Kathalia, Rajapur and Naichity in Jhalakathi district, Monpara and Tajumuddin in Bhola, Swarupkathi, Bhandaria, Mathbaria, Nazirpur and Kaukhali in Pirojpur, Galachipa, Amtali, Kalapara, Mirzaganj and Dashmina in Patuakhali, Patharghata, Betagi and Bamna in Borguna district.

## 50 injured in Chandpur clashes

CHANDPUR, Nov 8: More than 50 people were injured today in sporadic clashes in the town between supporters of the Islamic Chhatra Shibir and the Sampradikata Birodhi Chhatra Samaj, reports UNB.

Of them, 16 were admitted to hospitals including six in sadar and 10 in Faridganj with multiple injuries.

Police and witnesses said scores of crackers were blasted in the town during the day-long clashes over holding of rallies at municipal park at the same time by both the groups.

Three buses carrying Shibir workers to the rally were damaged on way and the passengers beaten.

Shibir, however, held its workers conference at the municipal park under heavy guards by police and its activists.

## Notes From Kushtia

KUSHTIA, Nov 8: World Thrift Day was observed in the district on Sunday in a befitting manner, reports UNB.

On the occasion national savings week '93 was inaugurated by the deputy commissioner at the local Press Club.

A discussion meeting presided over by SM Omar Ali, deputy general manager of Sonali Bank was held in observance of the day. It was also addressed by Prof Nurul Islam Chowdhury.

The speakers stressed the need for small savings and urged the people to develop saving habit to help solve the unemployment problems in the country.

## DC's office gheraoed

Krisak Sangram Samity gheraoed the Deputy Commissioner's office on Sunday for realising 4-point demand.

They handed over a memorandum to the deputy commissioner in support of their demands.

The demands include allowing of fishing in Kaliganga river by the local fishermen, supply of fertilizer to the sugarcane growers by the Kushtia Sugar Mills authority at market rate, allotment of khas land among the landless farmers and stopping harassment to the shopkeepers and hawkers by the leaseholders of different huts and bazars.

Later in a rally they said they would be forced to go for action programmes including hunger strike, hartal and road blockade, if their demands are not fulfilled immediately.

Earlier, the samity members brought out a procession in the town parading the main thoroughfares to press home their demands.

## Students hold rally

All Party Students Unity held a rally Sunday demanding to introduce double shift in the Kushtia Islamia College and admission of students in the first year classes immediately.

Held at the public library premises the student leaders announced fresh programmes of hunger strike, road blockade and hartal if their demands were not fulfilled immediately.

Another report adds: The local Jammal-e-Islami leaders demanded release of eight Chhatra Shibir activists who were arrested from the Islamic University campus on Sunday.

The leaders also condemned the expulsion of three Shibir activists from the university.

## 55 urban development schemes in progress

MAIJDIEE COURT, Nov 8: Noakhali pourashava has taken up 55 schemes under Annual Development Programme (ADP) during the current fiscal year, says UNB.

The schemes included construction and carpeting of roads, earth works, construction of RCC and wooden bridges. A total of Taka 38.91 lakh has been allocated for implementation of the schemes.

Official sources said works on the schemes have already been progressing fast and are expected to be completed by June '94.

Another report adds: Food for Education Programme has already been started in six unions of six thanas of the district.

The unions taken under the programme are: Char Matura of Sadar, Nateswar of Begumganj, Char Fakira of Companiganj, Sonadia of Hatiya, Nabipur of Senbag and Shahapur Chatkhil thana.

All the schools under the

unions will get the facilities of food for education programme.

Under the programme each school going student will be provided with 15 kgs of wheat and each family will be provided with maximum 30 kgs of wheat for more than one students under the programme per month.

Police seized 405 litres of country made wine from village Charpur in Sadar thana of the district on Sunday.

Acting on a tip, police raided the house of Abdul Matin and recovered the wine. Matin, however, escaped arrest.

Police also seized two television sets, two VCP and several cassettes for showing obscene films from a tea stall at Mahpal area of the town on the same day.

Two separate cases were filed with the police.

Another report from Brahmanbaria says: Police seized smuggled Indian spare parts worth about Taka 7.13 lakh from the Ujanishar bridge on Comilla-Brahmanbaria Highway on Oct 26.

## Medicare facilities in health complex inadequate

DINAJPUR, Nov 8: The Bochaganj Thana Health Complex has been faced with manifold problems, hampering medicare facilities to the suffering people of the area, reports UNB.

Paucity of medicine, power failure, water crisis, absence of ambulance and renovation works in buildings and roads are among the main problems of the hospital.

Most of the 31-beds of the hospital are without beds and patients have to bring their beddings from their homes.

There is no ambulance at the hospital and many serious patients in remote areas could not come to the complex in time to get proper treatment.

The complex has no separate ward for women and patients of infectious diseases. The only X-ray machine of the complex has gone out of order for the last ten months.

The hospital often plunged into darkness due to frequent power failure and as a result emergency operations could not be carried out in time.

Moreover, the premises of the complex, set up in 1972, has turned into a cattle grazing field due to want of boundary walls.

Local leaders have urged the concerned authorities to take necessary steps for removing the problems to provide proper medical services to the people.

Another reports adds: Bamboo production of the greater Dinajpur district has been decreasing rapidly due to rampant uprooting of bamboo clusters, lack of proper maintenance and training.

The ignorant farmers are selling the clusters to brickfield owners for burning bricks. They also use the roots for use as firewood in their domestic purposes causing sharp decline in its production.

As a result the price of bamboo in local market has gone up. A medium size bamboo is being sold between Taka 60 and 80 which is beyond the purchasing capacity of the poor farmers.

Many people who used to eke out their living from the cottage industries are in great problems due to scarcity of bamboo. On the other hand, the poor people who use bamboo as the main material for constructing their houses are in disarray.

About 90 per cent people in the rural areas depend on bamboo for repair and construction of their kutcha dwellings.

## Hooliganism has become a regular feature: Menon

NARAYANGANJ, Nov 8: Rashed Khan Menon, MP, general secretary of the Worker's Party, today called for thwarting the politics of killing, terrorism, coup and conspiracy to consolidate democracy in the country, reports BSS.

Terrorism, hijacking and hooliganism have become a common feature, he said while addressing a public meeting organised by the district unit of the party here at Diamond Square this afternoon. He was the chief guest in the meeting.

Presided over by Saifuddin Ahmed, general secretary of the local unit, the meeting was addressed by Tipu Biswas, a member politburo of the party. Saiful Hoq, member politburo and Kutub Uddin Akshir, member, district committee.

He said the recent meeting of the Prime Minister with the teachers of the Dhaka University to curb terrorism was a step forward to stamp out

the crisis.

He blamed the opposition political parties for indulging in terrorism along with the ruling party and urged the government to deal with the situation singlehandedly.

Accusing the Jamaat-Shibir axis of doing politics in the name of religion, he urged them not to spread the venom of communal politics in Bangladesh.

## Tk 1.81 crore given among poor people

MAGURA, Nov 8: Social Welfare Department has disbursed about Taka 1.81 crore interest free loan among the poor people of four districts of Jessore region under its social development programme during the current fiscal year, says UNB.

The VC of Chittagong University is receiving a fish fossil from the Assistant Chief Town Planner of CDA at a function held here recently. — CU photo



President Abdur Rahman Biswas offering munajat after laying the foundation stone of the zila board school mosque at Barisal on Saturday. — PID photo



NATORE: A winner of a Islamic cultural contest held here recently is receiving prize from the local DC. — Star photo



The VC of Chittagong University is receiving a fish fossil from the Assistant Chief Town Planner of CDA at a function held here recently. — CU photo